

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Department of Environmental Protection

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DEVAL L. PATRICK
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Lieutenant Governor

KENNETH L. KIMMELL
Commissioner

November 8, 2011

H. Curtis Spalding
Regional Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region I
5 Post Office Square – Suite 100
Boston, MA 02114-2023

Dear Mr. Spalding:

EPA issued a revised ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) on March 12, 2008, lowering the ozone standard from 0.08 parts per million (ppm) to 0.075 ppm. On March 11, 2009, Governor Deval Patrick submitted recommendations for Massachusetts' attainment designations under the ozone NAAQS. I am hereby providing revised recommendations for area designations under the 2008 ozone NAAQS.

EPA did not issue designations pending its reconsideration of the 2008 ozone NAAQS. On September 22, 2011, EPA announced that it would move ahead with designations and advised states that they could submit revised recommendations by October 28, 2011.

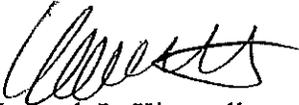
The 2009 recommendations by Governor Patrick were that EPA designate all of Massachusetts as non-attainment based on 2005-2007 monitored data. However, more recent monitored data shows much lower ozone concentrations in Massachusetts. As shown on Attachment 1, the ozone monitoring data for 2009 - 2011 show that all ozone monitors in Massachusetts, with the exception of the Martha's Vineyard monitor, meet the 2008 ozone NAAQS.

I am therefore recommending that all of Massachusetts be designated as an ozone attainment area, with the exception of Duke's County (Martha's Vineyard). I recommend that Duke's County be designated as a nonattainment area.

Massachusetts is proud of the significant progress it has made in reducing ozone levels. We will continue to implement measures to reduce ozone emissions from Massachusetts sources and urge EPA to continue to pursue aggressive national control measures to minimize the impact of pollution transport on Massachusetts and other downwind states.

If you require additional information in support of this recommendation, please contact Nancy Seidman (617-556-1020).

Sincerely,



Kenneth L. Kimmell
Commissioner

Enclosure

cc: Janet Coit, Director
Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management
Tom Burack, Commissioner
New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services

ATTACHMENT 1

Preliminary Massachusetts 2009-2011 Monitored Ozone Data

The table below summarizes the preliminary ozone data collected at the Massachusetts ozone monitors for the 2009-2011 three-year period. The level of the 2008 Ozone NAAQS is 0.075 parts per million (ppm). A monitor violates the NAAQS if the three-year average of the annual fourth-highest daily maximum eight-hour concentration (referred to as the "design value") exceeds 0.075 ppm. Based on 2009-2011 design values, all monitors in Massachusetts, except the Martha's Vineyard tribal monitor, meet the 2008 ozone NAAQS. The design value at the Martha's Vineyard tribal monitor violated the standard. The data for August and September 2011 have not been quality assured for accuracy. MassDEP will submit quality-assured, certified 2011 ozone data to EPA shortly.

Monitoring Site	EPA AQS Code	2009-2011 Design Value	Design Value Status
Adams	25-003-4002	0.068	Attainment
Amherst	25-015-0103	0.066	Attainment
Chicopee	25-013-0008	0.074	Attainment
Ware	25-015-4002	0.072	Attainment
Milton	25-021-3003	0.072	Attainment
Lynn	25-009-2006	0.071	Attainment
Newburyport*	25-009-4005	0.066	Attainment
Chelmsford**	25-017-0009	0.066	Attainment
Haverhill	25-009-5005	0.069	Attainment
Boston -Long Island	25-025-0041	0.070	Attainment
Boston - Roxbury	25-025-0042	0.061	Attainment
Stow	25-017-1102	0.067	Attainment
Truro	25-001-0002	0.072	Attainment
Worcester	25-027-0015	0.070	Attainment
Uxbridge	25-027-0024	0.070	Attainment
Fairhaven	25-005-1002	0.074	Attainment
Martha's Vineyard	25-007-0001	0.076	Nonattainment

*Newburyport data is for 2 years (monitor began operating in 2010)

** Chelmsford data is only available through June 2011